



Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Year A Cycle II | 30 August 2026



Radical Discipleship

The lamenting voice of Jeremiah in today's First Reading reminds us that sometimes we experience aloneness, rejection and even persecution for our faith. Living a life of faith can be a lonely road at times, especially when we are called to walk against the grain of popular views and aspirations. This uncomfortable reality is echoed in the Gospel as Jesus remonstrates with Peter. It is apparent that, despite walking closely with Jesus as a faithful disciple, Peter has not fully understood what radical discipleship means. It is imperative that Jesus remains faithful to his mission and confronts the reality of the cross and the inherent power of darkness. Our current 'creature comfort' culture can seduce us into avoiding pain and conflict. As committed disciples of Jesus we are called to embrace the cross so that, in companionship with Jesus alive in our Christian community, we can continue to heal the world from within.

God's Word Sr Patty Andrew OSU

Ultimate Victory

Jesus predicts his impending death by crucifixion. Peter is happy to acknowledge Jesus' triumph and glory but afraid to accept the way to achieve it. How can the Son of the Living God, the Messiah, die? Peter flounders and cannot understand that ultimate victory comes through suffering and death. One who does not understand the purposes of God's will is almost always a tempter. Jesus' death itself is the resurrection. Jesus uses the opportunity to teach his followers the meaning of discipleship. Even though they are with him all this time, now he tells them to follow him on the way of the suffering servant. His way is through suffering and his mission is to the cross. Anyone who decides to follow must give one's life in love to save others. One who loves unconditionally will have to die for others and suffer in life, but it will be the price of love. Do I choose to be a disciple of Christ today?

God's Word Sr C V Rosely FSP

PARISH PRIEST & DEAN of the CENTRAL COAST: Fr Brian Moloney

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Rosan Mathew

DEACON: Rev Tony Hoban

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Leanne McGill

Address: PO Box 189 THE ENTRANCE 2261

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9.30-5.00pm

Email: info@ourladyoftherosary.org.au

Web: www.ourladyoftherosary.org.au

DEACON: Rev Paul Simmons

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: Colleen Smith

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER: Karen Green

239-243 The Entrance Rd THE ENTRANCE 2261

Office Hours Telephone No: 4332 2216

After Hours Emergency No: 0493 364 448

Facebook: Our Lady of the Rosary Parish The Entrance



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The Cost of Following Christ

Jesus says that those who wish to come after him must "deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Notice that this is not simply a question of accepting suffering that happens to befall us. This is not simply a stoic resignation. Jesus is telling those who follow him to actively take up their crosses, to seek them out, to carry them as Jesus willingly carried his. What Jesus did on the cross was to bear the burden of the world's sin. He bore others' burdens in love. And this is what we must do too, actively seeking out ways to lighten other people's loads.

And then the great paradox: "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it." When we cling and grasp, we lose; when we let go in radical love, we find. Close your fist on your life and it crumbles to the dust; open your hand and let it go, and it grows tenfold.

The Word on Fire Bible Bishop Robert Barron

Crucifying Your Ego

Jesus lays out his conditions for discipleship. For all of us sinners, to varying degrees, our own lives have become god, that is to say, we see the universe turning around our ego, our needs, our projects and our plans, our likes and dislikes.

True conversion - the *metanoia* that Jesus talks about is so much more than moral reform, though it includes that. It has to do with a complete shift in consciousness, a whole new way of looking at one's life.

Jesus offered a teaching that must have been gut-wrenching to his first-century audience: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." His listeners knew what the cross meant: a death in utter agony, nakedness, and humiliation. They didn't think of the cross automatically in religious terms, as we do. They knew it in all of its awful power.

Unless you crucify your ego, you cannot be my follower, Jesus says. This move - this terrible move - has to be the foundation of the spiritual life.

The Word on Fire Bible Bishop Robert Barron

Social Justice Sunday

This Social Justice Sunday, 30 August, we are invited to reflect on the 2026 Social Justice Statement from the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, *Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division*. As followers of Christ, we are called to respond with truth, compassion, courage and a commitment to the common good.

Social Justice Sunday is an opportunity to reflect on how we can build greater understanding, listen to those whose voices are often unheard, stand alongside people who are vulnerable or excluded, and put our faith into action. The 2026 Social Justice Statement, *Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division*, and accompanying resources are available through the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Office for Social Justice. Take some time to read the Statement, reflect on its message and consider how to contribute to a more just and compassionate community. Go to

www.catholic.au/s/article/Social-Justice-Statements

Masses: Saturday Vigil 5pm | Sunday 8am & 9:30am | Reynolds Court 11am | Maronite Mass 5pm

Weekday Masses: Monday Communion Service 9am | Tuesday - Thursday 9am | Friday 11:45am
Saturday 9am | Reynolds Court Wednesday 10am

Reconciliations: Saturdays 9:30am - 10am | 4pm - 4:30pm **Liturgy of the Hours:** Saturday 8:40am

Rosary: Monday-Thursday 8:35am | Friday 11:20am | Saturday 9:30am

Holy Souls Crusade Prayer Group: Tuesday 9:30am **Cenacle Prayer Group:** Wednesday 9:30am

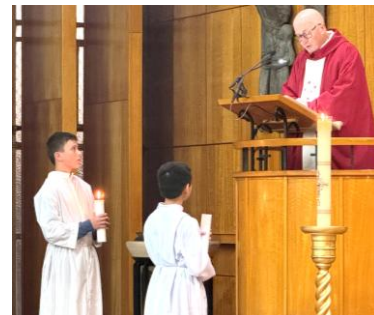
Christian Meditation Group: Friday 10:30am - 11:30am Reynolds Room



A Beacon of Faith, Hope & Love

Faith in Action – Altar Servers (Jnr & Snr)

Serve at the altar! Are you interested in becoming a Junior Altar Server (ages 9-12) or a Senior Altar Server (teens and adults) to help out during Sunday Masses? It's a fantastic opportunity to deepen your faith, engage actively in the Liturgy, and serve your parish community. Training will be provided, but please note that you must have received all the Sacraments of Initiation to be eligible. If this sounds like something you'd like to be involved in, please complete one of the 'Faith in Action' forms available at the Church entrances or reach out to the office.



Chapel of the Holy Spirit 25th Anniversary

All parishioners are invited to the Commemoration celebrations at Reynolds Court Chapel of the Holy Spirit for its 25th Anniversary of opening on 16 September. Mass will be celebrated at 10am followed by Morning Tea. The Chapel is located at Reynolds Court Residential Aged Care and Retirement Village at 7 Bias Avenue Bateau Bay. (Regular Masses are held each Sunday at 11am and Wednesdays at 10am. All are welcome to attend.)



Kids Club

Kids Club is a parish social group for 5-12 year olds who want to have fun, make new friends and learn more about Jesus! Games, craft, activities and snacks are provided. Parents of under 5 year olds must stay – all parents are welcome to stay. The next date is Saturday 12 September from 3pm-4:45pm in the Reynolds Room. All are welcome to join us afterwards for the 5pm Vigil Mass. Enq: 4332 2216.

Seaside Youth Group

Seaside Youth Group is a youth group made by youth for youth! A space for young people to connect with friends and faith. We welcome youth in school years 5-12. Our next date is 12 September after the 5pm Vigil Mass until 8pm, in the Upper Room. Newcomers always welcome – bring a friend! Any questions to 4332 2216.

Blessing & Opening of the Ambrose Centre

The new Ambrose Centre, a pastoral formation centre, is ready for use by the Central Coast community. We will be hosting a formal opening and blessing with our Diocesan Administrator Fr David Ranson on Saturday 12 September at 1:30pm. We hope over the coming months that many of you might consider attending any events on offer in the Ambrose Centre. The Opening will enable all to come and get a feel for the Centre and what it offers – we hope it becomes a much-loved resource and function centre for all of the Central Coast community to share. RSVP to the QR Code or enquiries to mission@bbcatholic.org.au



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 20:7-9 | Rom 12:1-2 | Matt 16:21-27

Entrance Antiphon: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

Responsorial Psalm: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.



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Please Note

Welcome!

This weekend we have the Reception of the Tanner Family whose child will be Baptised in the near future.

Congratulations!

This weekend we also welcome the Carpenter Family with the Reception into the Church of Luke and the Baptism of his three children.

Feast Days this Week

St Gregory the Great, Pope, 3 September; St Teresa of Calcutta 5 September.

Anointing of the Sick

This 1st Friday 4 September during 11:45am Mass.

First Friday Cuppa

All parishioners are invited to the Parish Centre for a lovely cuppa and refreshments after the 11:45am Anointing Mass. You are welcome to bring a plate to share. Enjoy some good company before heading home again. Enquiries to the office on 4332 2216.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

1st Saturday 5 September Adoration will be held for one hour following the 9am Mass. Adoration concludes with Benediction.

Seasons for Growth Seminar: Understanding Change, Loss and Grief Seminar

This free seminar is designed for individuals and groups seeking to deepen their understanding of the experiences of change, loss and grief, while exploring the ways we can compassionately support ourselves and others through times of transition and sorrow. Saturday 12 September 10am in the Ambrose Centre (behind the Church). Registration: mission@bbcatholic.org.au

Keep Us in Your Prayers

Recently Deceased: Dea Dox, Luka Skellin, Marie Whitby, Peter Maher, Adele Fredewell, Leslie Wallace, Mario Cosenza, Fr Eugene Stockton, Floremil Palines.

Funerals: The funeral of Dea Dox will be held here on Tuesday at 2pm. Please pray for Dea and her family.

Remembrances: Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Richard Falzon, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, John Giutronich, Mario Cauchi, Nona Redman, Fr Michael Kelly, Delma Clarke, Jerry & Winifred Maher, Robert Fowler, Duke Leonidas (birthday), Dragicevic Lovorka, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Sick: Fr Bill Stevens (surgery), Ben Franckin, Kate Allison, Steve Kay, John Cox, Caroline Dadd, Michael Fenton, Sharron Moyce, Michael & Julie Trussell, Linda Ho, Glenn Bartholomew, Scott Studdon, Angela & Tony Fowler, Jean Jackson, Fr Harry Kennedy, Lynette Falken, Fr Bob Brogan, Walter Knoke, Anne Knoke, Pat McCudden, Linda Read, Rod Slater, Pam Elliott, Patrick Yeo, Stjepan Tuka, John McClement, Emma Horton, Kelly Will.

Welcome Newly Baptised: Winston Sullivan.



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Sacred Gifts

Welcome!

We open on Saturdays before and after the 5pm Vigil Mass and Sundays before and after the 9:30am Mass.

Also weekdays by appointment.

You'll find us in the foyer of the Church.

4332 2216